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TAMMANY HALL

CELEBRATION
OF
American Independence.

JULY 4th, 1890.

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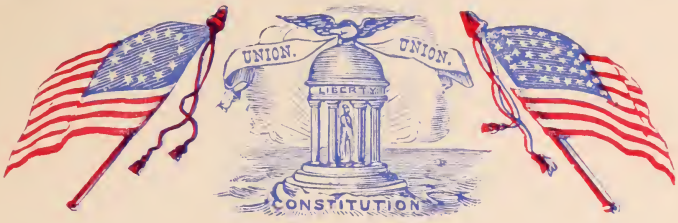
Society of Tammany, or Columbian Order

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.



Tammany Hall,

New York, June, 1890.

Dear Sir:

As patriotic and liberty-loving sons of the Society of Tammany or Columbian Order, we again bring to the attention of our countrymen the approach of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Celebration by our Society of the Fourth of July, the Birthday of our Glorious Republic, and cordially invite you to join with us in this patriotic duty.

This Order, organized in the same year that witnessed the adoption of our present Federal Constitution, has partici-

pated in all the great events that have marked the history of our Country during the past hundred years, and has been recognized during that period as the protector of the rights of the people and the defender of the Constitution. It has been found active in every effort to advance the cause of Democracy, and has numbered amongst its members the most illustrious names in the annals of our statesmanship. Respected for its public services, venerable for its years, our Society stands to-day almost the only survivor of a century ago, strong in the confidence of the people, and ready as always during its history to do battle in the defense of their rights.

It is proper that we should, on this occasion, with grateful hearts and joyful pride, revive the memories which give significance to the day we celebrate,

and it is meet that we should, in the most solemn manner, renew our pledges of devotion to the principles for which our Fathers fought, and for whose maintenance this Columbian Order was established.

The simple and impressive services of the Society, on each recurring celebration of American Independence, cannot fail to fire the patriotic ardor of those who participate in them, inspiring them with patriotic sentiments and a renewal of their love and devotion to a pure Jeffersonian Democratic form of Government.

We therefore cordially invite you to participate with us in this patriotic celebration.

Abram B. Tappen,
Grand Sachem

John J. Gorman,

Father of the Council.

Hugh J. Grant, Wm. Bourke Cockran,
Richard Croker, Charles Welde,
John McQuade, Bernard F. Martin,
John J. Gorman, John Cochrane,
Charles M. Clancy, Joel O. Stevens,
Henry D. Purroy, Thomas L. Feitner,
Charles E. Simmons.

Sachems.

Arthur Leary, Treasurer.

John B. McGoldrick, Secretary.

William H Dobbs, Sagamore.

John D. Newman, Wiskinkie.

Maurice F. Holahan,

Scribe of the Council.

Address all communications to

Abram B. Tappen,

Tammany Hall, New York.

CELEBRATION

OF THE

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE DECLARATION OF

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE,

BY THE

SOCIETY OF TAMMANY

OR

COLUMBIAN ORDER,

HELD AT

TAMMANY HALL,

FRIDAY, JULY 4TH, 1890.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE TAMMANY SOCIETY.

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SOCIETY OF TAMMANY, OR COLUMBIAN ORDER.

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH

ANNUAL CELEBRATION

OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF

American Independence,

HELD AT

TAMMANY HALL, 14TH ST., NEAR THIRD AVE.,

Friday, July 4th, 1890.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

NATIONAL AIRS. . . . . By BAYNE'S 69TH REGT. BAND.
ADDRESS OF WELCOME, . . . By GRAND SACHEM ABRAM B. TAPPEN.

MUSIC.

QUARTETTE—"Hail to our Beautiful Land," . . . TAMMANY GLEE CLUB.
READING THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, as prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society, By BROTHER GEORGE B. McCLELLAN.
QUARTETTE—"The Sword of Bunker Hill," . . . TAMMANY GLEE CLUB.
READING REPLIES TO THE INVITATIONS OF THE SOCIETY FROM DISTINGUISHED DEMOCRATS AND ABSENT BROTHERS, ... By SECRETARY JOHN B. McGOLDRICK.
SOLO AND CHORUS—"The Star Spangled Banner," MR. PHILLIP F. SULLIVAN, AND TAMMANY GLEE CLUB.

"LONG TALKS,"

BY HON. WILLIAM D. BYNUM, of Indiana.
HON. CHARLES F. CRISP, of Georgia.

MUSIC.

QUARTETTE—"The Flag of our Union, Forever," . . TAMMANY GLEE CLUB.

"SHORT TALKS,"

BY

HON. B. T. BIGGS, Governor of Delaware.
" WILLIAM M. SPRINGER, of Illinois.
" ASHER G. CARUTH, of Kentucky.
" WILLIAM C. P. BRECKINRIDGE, of Kentucky.
" WILLIAM S. HOLMAN, of Indiana.
" WILLIAM McADOO, of New Jersey.
" THEO. WILKINSON, of Louisiana.
" BENTON McMILLAN, of Tennessee.
" JOHN M. ALLEN, of Mississippi.
HON. JAMES W. COVERT, of New York.
" FRANCIS B. SPINOLA, of New York.
" JOHN H. McCARTHY, of New York.
" AMOS J. CUMMINGS, of New York.
" EDWARD J. DUNPHY, of New York.
" CHARLES H. TURNER, of New York.
" ASHBEL P. FITCH, of New York.
GEN. DANIEL E. SICKLES, of New York.
HON. ORESTES CLEVELAND, of N. J.
" ALLAN L. McDERMOTT, of N. J.

SACHEMS AND OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

ABRAM B. TAPPEN, *Grand Sachem.*

HUGH J. GRANT,
THOMAS L. FEITNER,
BERNARD F. MARTIN,
CHARLES M. CLANCY,
CHARLES E. SIMMONS,
RICHARD CROKER,
JOEL O. STEVENS,
JOHN COCHRANE,
CHARLES WELDE,
WM. BOURKE COCKRAN,
JOHN McQUADE,
JOHN J. GORMAN,
HENRY D. PURROY,
Sachems.

ARTHUR LEARY, *Treasurer.*
JOHN D. NEWMAN, *Wiskinkie.*
JOHN J. GORMAN, *Father of the Council.*
JOHN B. McGOLDRICK, *Secretary.*
WILLIAM H. DOBBS, *Sagamore.*
MAURICE F. HOLAHAN, *Scribe of the Council.*

COLUMBIA, THE GEM OF THE OCEAN.

SUNG BY TAMMANY GLEE CLUB, SACHEMS, BRAVES AND AUDIENCE.

Columbia, the gem of the ocean,
The home of the brave and the free,
The shrine of each patriot's devotion,
A world offers homage to thee,
Thy mandates make heroes assemble,
When liberty's form stands in view,
Thy banners make tyrants tremble,
When borne by the Red, White and Blue.

CHORUS.

When borne by the Red, White and Blue—Tammany Hall;
When borne by the Red, White and Blue—Tammany Hall;
Thy banners make tyrants tremble,
When borne by the Red, White and Blue—Tammany Hall.

When war waged its wide desolation,
And threatened our land to deform,
The ark then of freedom's foundation,
Columbia rode safe through the storm,
With her garland of victory o'er her,
When so proudly she bore her bold crew,
With her flag proudly floating before her,
The boast of the Red, White and Blue.

CHORUS.

The boast of the Red, White and Blue—Tammany Hall;
The boast of the Red, White and Blue—Tammany Hall;
With her flag proudly floating before her,
The boast of the Red, White and Blue—Tammany Hall.

The wine cup, the wine cup bring hither,
And fill you it up to the brim;
May the wreath they have won never wither,
Nor the star of their glory grow dim!
May the service united ne'er sever,
And hold to their colors so true!
The Army and Navy for ever!
Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue.

CHORUS.

Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue—Tammany Hall;
Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue—Tammany Hall;
The Army and Navy for ever!
Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue—Tammany Hall.

TAMMANY SOCIETY.

CELEBRATION

OF THE

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH

ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE,

JULY 4TH, 1890.

THE Celebration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence, on Friday, July 4th, 1890, was a red letter day in the history of the SOCIETY OF TAMMANY OR COLUMBIAN ORDER. In accordance with the provisions of its Constitution and Laws of the Society, the Sachems, braves, and loyal democrats assembled to hear the Declaration of Independence read, and to celebrate the natal day of the Republic. For more than one hundred years have the sons of Tammany met and performed this duty imposed upon them by their fathers, in order to keep alive that love of liberty that caused the

heroes of the Revolution to risk "their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor" to establish a Union of "free and independent states," under a government where all men would be recognized as equal, and the laws would be made for the people and by the people.

These celebrations of Independence Day, by Tammany, are growing larger, more interesting and more important. The celebration of July 4th, 1890, was one of the grandest ever given by the Society. Representatives of the people of thirteen states, in the House of Representatives, came from their labors in the National Congress to congratulate Tammany upon its unswerving democracy and devotion to the interests of the people.

The exercises were to begin at ten o'clock, but long before that hour thousands of enthusiastic democrats filled the street in front of the Wigwam, anxiously waiting for the great doors to be thrown open, and when the hour of assembling arrived every corner of the great hall was filled.

The Wigwam was handsomely decorated within and without. Outside the National colors floated from every window, and from each corner of the

building to the top of the flag-staff on the roof fluttered the ensigns of the Navy. Within the hall the decorations were very handsome. The boxes and galleries were draped in purple and gold, while around the main gallery were hung thirteen bannerets bearing the coats of arms of the thirteen original states. The boxes reserved for ladies were draped in the National colors. Around the stage was the same draping of purple and gold; the entrance to the cave was draped to represent the door of a wigwam, and upon the walls were shields bearing the coats of arms of the thirteen original States, New York occupying the place of honor in the centre. Upon the table of the Grand Sachem was a magnificent basket of flowers, while on either side of the stage were two large pillows of flowers, one bearing the date of the organization of the Society "1789," and the other the year "1890."

Bayne's Sixty-ninth Regiment Band furnished the music, and from its place in the gallery discoursed patriotic and popular airs which were vigorously applauded by the waiting audience.

Every inch of space was occupied, the floor of the large hall, the main gallery, and the ladies'

gallery, and the scene was most brilliant and inspiring.

It was exactly ten o'clock, when the procession of Sachems, Braves, and guests entered the hall, led by the veteran Wiskinkie, John D. Newman, bearing aloft the Cap of Liberty, and Sagamore William H. Dobbs, with the Tomahawk and Pipe of Peace. The band played a Grand March composed for the occasion, and as the Braves and their guests took the places assigned them upon the grand platform they were greeted with applause, loud and long.

Among the many distinguished Democrats present, were: Governor B. T. Biggs, of Delaware, Hon. William D Bynum, of Indiana, Hon. Charles F Crisp, of Georgia, Hon. John M. Allen, of Mississippi, Hon. B. A. Emloe, of Tennessee, Hon. Theodore S Wilkinson, of Louisiana, Hon. William M. Springer, of Illinois, Hon. S. S. Yoder, of Ohio, Hon. James Kerr, of Pennsylvania, Hon. Asher G. Caruth, of Kentucky, Hon. C H. Mansur, of Missouri, Mayor Hugh J. Grant, Hon. Richard Croker, Commissioner of Public Works Thomas F. Gilroy, Police Commissioners James J. Martin and Charles F McLean, Fire Commissioners Henry D. Purroy, and Anthony Eickhoff,

Sheriff Daniel E. Sickles, County Clerk Edward F. Reilly, Recorder Frederick Smyth, Register Frank Fitzgerald, Mayor Patrick Gleason, of Long Island City, Congressmen James W. Covert, and Felix Campbell, Surrogate Rastus Ransom, Deputy County Clerk P. Joseph Scully, Senators William L. Brown, George F. Roesch, Jacob A. Cantor, Eugene S. Ives, Commissioners of Accounts Maurice F. Holahan, and Prescott Barker, Tax Commissioner Thomas L Feitner, Commissioners of Charities Edward C. Sheehy, and Charles E. Simmons. Street Cleaning Commissioner Hans S. Beatty, Dock Commissioner J. Sergeant Cram, Park Commissioner A. W. Gallup, Corporation Counsel William H. Clark, Ex-Congressman W. Bourke Cockran, City Chamberlain Thomas C. T. Crain, Coroners Ferdinand Levy, Louis W. Schultze, Daniel Hanly, and M. J. B. Messemer, Police Justices Daniel F. McMahon, John Cochrane, John J. Gorman, Charles Welde, Andrew J. White, and Daniel O'Reilly, Ex-Alderman Patrick Divver, Excise Commissioners Edward F. Fitzpatrick, Joseph Koch, and Alexander Meakin, Civil Justices Peter Mitchell, John McKeon, Charles M. Clancy, Alfred Steckler, Andrew J. Rogers, and William Moore. Assessor Edward Cahill, James Everard, Deputy Commissioner of

Public Works Bernard F. Martin, George Hall, Albert Eltrich, James Fitzpatrick, Charles Steckler, John J. Scannel, Commissioner Edgar L. Ridgway, Benjamin W. Buchanan of the Supreme Court, Secretary John C. Sheehan of the Aqueduct Board, Ex-Commissioner James C. Spencer, Joseph O. Davis of the Superior Court, Cornelius A. Caffrey, Judges Simon M. Erlich, David McAdam, Leonard A. Geigerich, James Fitzsimons of the City Court, Edward F. Reynolds, Clerk Michael T. Daly, Deputy-Sheriff Lawrence Delmore, Ex-Register John Reilly, Bernard Reilly, Jr., Deputy Street Cleaning Commissioner William Dalton, Hon. Edward P. Hagan, Ex-Senator George W. Plunkitt, John E. Kelly, Ex-Alderman Richard J. Sullivan, James P. Keating, Michael Brennan, Michael Breen, Ex-Alderman Peter Seery, Under-Sheriff John B. Sexton, Ex-Judge John McQuade, Commissioner Charles F. Allen, President John H. V. Arnold of the Board of Aldermen, John F. Carroll, Clerk of Special Sessions; John C. Munzinger, Marshal John H. McCarthy, Ex-Assemblyman John B. Shea, Jacob Seabold, John H. J. Ronner, Congressmen Charles H. Turner, Edward J. Dunphy, John Henry McCarthy, Amos J. Cummings, and Francis B. Spinola, Assemblymen P. J. Duffy, Timothy D. Sullivan, John Monaghan,

Dominick F. Mullaney, Phillip Wissig, William Sulzer, Frederick Haffner, William G. Byrne, Stephen J. O'Hare, John Connolly, M. J. Stein, Christopher C. Clarke, Aldermen Edward Duffy, Cornelius Flynn, Thomas Lynch, Isaac H. Terrill, and James Curry, Police Justice Edward Hogan, Superintendent Thomas Brady, Thomas W. Duane, Assemblyman Joseph Blumenthal, Aldermen William H. Walker, Alexander J. Dowd, James Gilligan, David Barry, and William P. Rinckhoff, Civil Justice Joseph J. Fallon, Water Purveyor William H. Burke, Private Secretary Leicester Holme, William J. Hill, William Lamb, Jr., Thomas C. O'Sullivan, John McCormack, Peter Farrell, Daniel M. Donegan, Charles Rastus Wilson, Demos L. Holmes, Norman Andruss, Bryan Henry, James H. Davis, Deputy-Sheriff Joel O. Stevens, John G. H. Meyers, John A. Linheer, Edward Kearney, James Flemming, Louis J. Heintz, Ex-Commissioner Smith E. Lane, Dr. George W. Collins, John A. Boyle, Frank Young, Henry C. Reilly, James A. Forgarty, John P. Hilly, Terence Duffy, Ex-Coroner William H. Kennedy, Dr. Philip E. Donlin, John F. Delury, Augustine Healy, Peter Herron, Benjamin Hatton, John J. Farrell, Louis Munzinger, Ex-Judge Leo C. Dessar, John Whalen, George A. Lambrecht,

Mayor's-Marshal Daniel Engelhard, Bryan G. McSwyny, David Leventritt, Commissioner Thaddeus Moriarty, Bernard F. Malone, John P. Schuchmann, Judge Henry Bischoff, Jr., J. C. J. Langbein, Lewis Lyon, and William E Stillings.

Grand Sachem Abram B. Tappen, after the Sachems and Braves were seated, called the assemblage to order and welcomed them as follows:

Fellow Citizens and Fellow Countrymen: We welcome you heartily, a welcome we extend to you of the most hearty and sincere character. We are met here in compliance with the requisitions of our charter and the promptings of every patriotic feeling which does honor to the human breast, to celebrate the anniversary of that great day which in a new world gave birth to a new nation, a nation which has grown and prospered beyond all example in the history of mankind, and is now among the most important and distinguished nations of the earth. To preserve and perpetuate all the principles and traditions which enter into the maintenance of our Republic, it is fitting that we celebrate this day by public demonstrations of the most patriotic character. We

must keep alive and in active remembrance, both in the present and in all future generations, the services and the sacrifices of our forefathers whereby we became a free people. More emphatically is this the case to-day when we see the ascendancy of true Democratic-Republican principles threatened in the councils of the nation, threatened with destruction by those who have sworn to defend the Constitution and to preserve the Republic. When we see a partisan majority having a temporary ascendancy in the councils of the nation breaking down all barriers created by the Constitution, and by the traditions and principles of our form of Government, and endeavoring by fraudulent legislation, under the pretence of preventing fraud, themselves to perpetrate fraud, and by violence to perpetuate their own ascendancy irrespective of the will of the people of this Republic, all times and all occasions are fitting for the most bitter denunciation of such a course. You may go back to the days of the early struggles of the colonies to free themselves from the yoke of British thraldom, and you will not find in all the Legislation of the British Parliament anything to equal the legislation attempted at this day by those who are in temporary ascendancy. I might say the same of all other parliamentary

bodies existing under the forms of civil liberty in any part of the world. Now, gentlemen, we are favored, repeating again that earnest welcome we extend to all—not only, as I say, in fulfillment of our chartered requisition, but because it is our great desire, our great joy, on an occasion like this, to have you all here—I will say to you that you will be addressed by some eminent gentlemen, citizens of other States, who have accepted our invitation, and have presented themselves here to enable us fittingly to celebrate this day.

At the conclusion of the address of the Grand Sachem, the band played several patriotic airs, and the Tammany Glee Club rendered, "Hail to Our Beautiful Land"

Bro. George B. McClellan was then indroduced, and read, with fine effect, and amid great applause "The Declaration of Independence."

The Glee Club sang "The Sword of Bunker Hill," and Grand Sachem Abram B. Tappen introduced for the first "Long Talk" Hon. William D. Bynum, of Indiana.

Mr. Bynum was received with great applause. He spoke as follows:

Address of Hon. William D. Bynum.

Grand Sachem, Ladies and Gentlemen:—I cannot truly express the gratification and pleasure it affords me to be with you to-day and to participate in the celebration of our national birthday in this memorable hall. Here has dwelt Tammany, the devoted friend and firm supporter of constitutional rights and personal liberty for a period co-existent with the constitution itself. There is a special pleasure to me, as I believe there would be to every Hoosier Democrat at being able to join with you in this commemoration. Every Indiana Democrat remembers with gratitude the true and loyal friendship that existed between that noble-hearted and trusted leader of Tammany, the late Mr. Kelly, and the ideal Democrat of his time, the late Vice-President, Mr. Hendricks. We can never forget that whenever the democracy of Indiana raised the banner of Hendricks in national contests that Tammany rallied to his support with as loyal devotion as his own idolitrous followers. [Applause.] Although not commissioned by the

democracy of Indiana I know, I but express their wish when I convey to you words of praise and good-will in your efforts to maintain and uphold the principles of constitutional government as committed to us by our fathers.

The occasion of the celebration of our birthday as an independent people affords an opportune time to look back over the past, take a view of the course over which we have traveled and to ascertain whether we are moving in the right direction. It is no blind adoration that impels us in the belief that no greater patriots ever lived than those who declared and achieved our independence, not as a nation but as a free people. The founders of our Government did not believe in a nation with a big N. They believed that supreme sovereignty resided and should remain with the people. It is a somewhat prevalent belief amongst the masses that our rights and privileges are derived from constitutional provisions. Suffice it to say that this is not democracy—not even *compound* democracy. We do not look to constitutions as the source of our inestimable rights and the origin of our great liberties! They are but the instruments by which pre-existing rights are secured and guarded against the encroachments and oppression of governments. Our

Constitution was so framed, should be so administered and must be so preserved. No majority, however great and powerful has the right to take away by constitutional provisions or otherwise the natural privileges of a minority, however small and feeble. Every effort to engraft upon the Constitution of a State or of the Federal Government a provision which has for its object the restraint of a natural right, the prohibition of a lawful pursuit is an unwarranted encroachment upon the liberties of the people, and is the offspring of that spirit of intolerance which in all ages of the world's history, when unbridled, has led to cruelties too heartless to witness and crimes too horrible to mention. The right of a majority to govern is a right with clearly defined and distinctly marked bounderies. A majority has the right to govern, and is entitled to confidence and support so long as it respects, not only respects but jealously preserves the rights of the minority. [Applause.]

The greatest danger to our institutions is not in the rebellion of a minority, but in the tyranny and oppressions of the majority. That our Constitution is as near equipoise in the distribution of its powers between the different departments of the Government as could well be made has been

demonstrated time and again. The line of demarkation between the reserved sovereignty of the people of the States and the powers conferred upon the Federal Government is as clearly indicated as it is possible, conceding to the latter the power of self-preservation. Upon occasions of national rejoicings we are given more to exultation than to serious thought. We point with pride to the great contests through which we have passed, to the great struggles from which we have triumphantly emerged as sure guarantees that the progress of our glory as a free people will never be seriously obstructed; but we should remember that many a stately ship has safely passed the reefs, triumphantly rode the crested-billows of the storm in mid-ocean to be wrecked by a gale upon the sands of the beach within sight of her port. The preservation of the rights of the people depend more upon the character and patriotism of those who may be entrusted with the reins of government than upon the limitations to their powers or the number and strength of provisions in the bill of rights. We have passed that period in our history when we need have any fears of the impairment or destruction of our form of government by foreign foes or from a want of the proper adjustment of the powers

delegated; but have reached a period when selfish interests seek to administer our great prerogatives for the benefit of a few to the detriment of many. It has been attested by those of other republics that the founders of ours contributed as much to its success, by their examples, as by their great abilities and labors. To set a true example is to perform a noble deed. They loved freedom, and therefore labored to secure its blessings to themselves and their posterity forever. They experienced the difficulties and impossibilities of framing a Constitution which was free from objections and of conferring powers which could not be abused, and therefore knew how necessary it was that the spirit as well as the letter of each and every provision of that instrument should be strictly construed and faithfully observed. Strict to construe, they were strict to observe! The sentiment and patriotism of the age necessarily crystallized into principles essential to the correct modes of interpretation, to the faithful observance of the limits of the powers granted, and in the maintenance and preservation of these was founded this grand temple of liberty nearly a hundred years agone. Democratic ideas and Democratic principles, in my judgment, are the only sure and safe repositories of the priceless jewels of liberty, justice and law. [Applause.]

They dominated and influenced the administration of affairs in this Government for more than sixty years, and under their benign influence the broad expanse of our domain reached the golden shores of the Pacific, and the capability of the people for self-government was successfully demonstrated and it is to be hoped firmly established. I look upon the time when the teachings and principles of the Democratic party were supplanted in the administration of affairs as a dangerous one for the people. A departure when once taken diverges more and more the longer it is pursued, and the more difficult becomes the return. Step by step we have progressed in the direction of unlimited power in the hands of the Federal Government, until to-day we are face to face with a despotic rule that may, in the intoxication of its success, go to the extent that it can only be throttled by patriotic deeds of valor and courage. For months the people have witnessed, not I believe without indignation, the presiding officer of the House of Representatives assume unwarranted powers, trample upon the rights of representatives, override the most sacred provisions of the Constitution for the purpose of robbing constituencies of their rightful representation. Practices established and precedents

observed and revered from the foundation of the Government have been ignored by the Speaker with a rudeness akin to barbarism, and even his own words and arguments, uttered under the solemnity of the most sacred obligation that could be administered to a freeman, that of preserving and defending the Constitution of his country, were, when cited in condemnation of his conduct, scoffed and jeered by himself and partisans as if they were but the idle vaporings of a brainless demagogue upon the sandlots of San Francisco. What a transition in so short a period of time! What a change from the Fiftieth to the Fifty-first Congress! From gentleness to austerity; impartiality to favoritism, refinement to brutality, justice to injustice, right to wrong—Carlisle to Reed. [Applause.]

The outrageous acts of the Speaker were not only excused but commended by his partisans under the pretext that dilatory proceedings were no longer to be tolerated. The direct tax bill, it was said, had been lost in the last Congress by obstructionary proceedings. The Blair Educational Bill had died upon the calendar, notwithstanding, it was claimed, a large majority of the representatives of the people favored its passage. The payment of the French spoliation

claims, it was shouted, had been defeated by the action of a minority in defiance of the will of the House, and for the enactment of these measures the Speaker, in a braggadocio air, announced that this Congress was organized for *action.* Summer has come, the surplus has departed, and all these schemes are yet in embryo. The surplus was exhausted in such a short space of time that they had to halt before they got fairly started. No one, however, was deceived by this hypocrisy. Every intelligent person knew that the design and purpose of these freebooters was to rob a sufficient number of constituencies of the rightful representatives and place others in their stead who could be utilized in the enactment of a Federal election law, designed to perpetuate themselves in power, in defiance of the action and will of the people. The bill which has just passed the House provides that the Chief Supervisor now in office and such as may hereafter be appointed in their respective judicial districts by the judges of the Circuit Court of the United States shall perform the duties prescribed for them. They are, upon the receipt of a petition from one hundred citizens and voters in any city, containing more than 20,000 inhabitants, or any congressional district, or a petition from fifty

citizens and voters from any county or parish in any congressional district to certify lists of persons to act as supervisors in all rating precincts within such territory, and the judge is required from such lists to appoint three supervisors in each rating precinct. It is made the duty of the precinct supervisors, under the direction of the Chief Supervisor, to make in any city or town, within five weeks of the election, a house to house canvass of the precinct or district, and to ascertain by inquiry at any dwelling or other place the name, age, nativity, term of residence and other qualifications, and make report in writing to the Chief Supervisor. To attend the registration of voters, to challenge the right to register or to remain on the registry and to require the registration officer to mark any voter for challenge. To attend the election and witness the counting of votes. To make, certify and forward returns of the votes cast in the precinct, for representation in Congress, to the Chief Supervisor. To make, in any city or town of 20,000 or more, when required by the Chief Supervisor, a list of all such persons as may be naturalized in any court therein: the date of their naturalization, their residence, place of nativity, name and residence of their witnesses, the same to be filed

in the office of the Chief Supervisor. These are but a small portion of the duties to be performed by the precinct supervisors and their chiefs, but give a general idea of the purpose and scope of the bill. It requires no extraordinary powers of mental vision to foresee the design of this measure, although it is impossible for any true Democrat to conceive a conscience so biased with partisanship, a mind so polluted with bigotry and a heart so destitute of patriotism as to deliberately prepare and openly advocate its provisions. [Applause.]

What a machine for oppression, intimidation and corruption! The office of Chief Supervisor is to be made the centre of political information and political advantage. He will be the source of information and power. He will send out his partisan supervisors to invade the homes of humble citizens to find out their politics, and, if they be Democrats, to hunt up their history, to see if by some excuse they may challenge or intimidate them on election day. If the elector should chance to be of foreign birth the record of his naturalization and the names and history of his witnesses are to be found, and all this information is to be reported to the Chief Supervisor, to be kept and recorded by him in his office. In

short, this is a bill to legalize the Republican organization to be supported with unlimited appropriations out of the Federal Treasury, and to clothe its members with power to persecute, arrest and imprison, without cause, any Democrat who may labor under the delusion that he still has a right to participate in elections. No such a measure ever emanated from the brain of a true lover of his people or a devoted friend of his country. The spirit of its origin never had a habitation except in a heart filled with venom. Our free institutions have weathered many a storm; they majestically withstood the attacks from the alien and sedition laws; they triumphed over Knownothingism; they have survived the unbridled passions and dreadful influences of a terrible war between the sections; they have received many a stab, but never in my judgment from any source has been made such a wicked and deadly thrust at the very heart of the nation as has been made by those who are seeking to enact this law. [Applause.]

Be not deceived! This measure is not intended for the South alone, it is intended for New York and Indiana in 1892, and for your city and my city when its monstrous provisions can be invoked. It is to enable that original "package"

of political rascality, John I. Davenport, to appoint an army of spies to invade the houses of your citizens to rob them of their naturalization papers, to terrorize over them, and drive them from the polls by the aid of Federal marshals. But this is not all. It is further provided that there shall be appointed a Board of Canvassers in each district, composed of three members, whose duty it shall be to canvass and tabulate the vote certified to them as cast for representative in Congress, and to forward a copy to the Clerk of the House of Representatives, and this return is to be the evidence which shall control the clerk in making up the roll of members. If by any chance a district, which has been marked as essential to the success of a Republican majority in the House, should by the State election boards appear to have chosen a Democrat, as a last and final resort the Federal supervisors are empowered to count in the Republican, and the Clerk of the House is required, under severe penalties, to place his name upon the roll as the member elect. For fear they will not be able to do the counting, after the next House is organized, they provide for doing it beforehand. Ever since 1876 I have had the fullest confidence in the ability of the Republican party to steal anything

it desired, but I confess this is the most *previous* arrangement they have yet been able to devise.

Oh, that the patriotic sense of the people might be aroused, on this our birthday of freedom, to a realization of the danger that threatens their liberties!

What are the excuses made by those who have dared to commit such a crime against free government? That the people can no longer be entrusted with the supreme power to guard and protect their own liberties.

Who are to become the guardians of the people in the preservation of the great trust which the fathers committed to their custody more than a hundred and score years ago? Sirs, if there is one great overshadowing crime for which the Republican leaders and the Republican party are solely responsible it is for debauching the purity of the ballot and corrupting elections until an honest result is utterly impossible. [Great applause.]

In 1880 they levied assessments upon the subordinate officials of the Government, including the battle-scarred veterans and the widows of deceased soldiers, to secure a corruption fund to debauch the voters of Indiana at the October election.

In 1888 they "fried the fat" out of the monopolies to carry out an organized system of corruption in New York and Indiana by which the honest sentiment of the people was defeated. But these practices require too much labor and are attended with great risks, and are not likely to be fruitful sources of "boodle" in the future, and they therefore propose, by this election bill, to legalize their organization of corruption, clothe it with supreme and arbitrary power to carry out their schemes of debauchery without fear or molestation.

They surround themselves with Federal power and grant to themselves appropriations perpetually and without limit to carry on their campaigns of sophistry and "soap," boodle and "blocks of five." Not content to risk their cause here they go farther and provide that in case they fail at the polls they shall make the returns and certify the results.

Their rapacious ingenuity and malevolent designs it seems would have been satisfied and exhausted by these provisions, but such was not the case. In this bill is embodied, as crimes, acts which may be honest and praiseworthy upon the part of electors, and for the commission of these the severest punishments and penalties are

prescribed, and then for fear that they might be caught in the meshes of the net which they had spread for others they amend the law so as to enable them to pack juries with their partisans to acquit Republicans and convict Democrats.

What a commentary that this bill should have originated in the House of Representatives. What an outrage for the people's representatives, selected to guard, with argus vigilance, their rights and liberties, to turn upon them and brand them as too dishonest and corrupt to be trusted in the supervision and control of all that is sacred to them and to their posterity. The advocates of this measure say to the people: "You are not to be trusted with management of your own elections, and therefore we propose to send Federal Supervisors and Federal Marshals to watch over you; to construe your laws, to canvass your votes and make up your returns, with power to arrest and imprison you without warrant if you dare question their acts, however arbitrary and despotic they may be." Shame upon a party and upon the men that would thus stigmatize the brave and patriotic people of this country, whose devotions to free institutions has been sealed with their blood upon a hundred battlefields.

This bill strikes down the vital principle of our

Government. A representative Republic must languish and expire if the source of its life and duration—the right of free and untrammeled elections shall be poisoned or cut off. [Applause.]

Who are the persons most persistent and most potent in demanding the enactment of this law? Who are these men who arrogate to themselves all the virtue and all the honesty that is left amongst the people, and who seek to be enthroned perpetually as the guardians of their welfare? As well might the wolf ask to be chosen to guard the lamb, the lion the fawn, or the serpent the dove, as for the Republican managers to ask to be selected as guardians of the purity of the ballot. [Great applause.]

The last man to be trusted with an arbitrary power is the man who would ruthlessly lay his hand upon it. No patriot ever coveted such a power. No lover of his country and his people ever asked to be clothed with supreme authority over them. Those who ask for such a power desire it for base and corrupt purposes. Let not the people of the North believe that this measure is to enforce the rights of the colored people of the South. The colored people are only to be injured by it. It is to stifle the voices of the people of New York and Indiana, pivotal States,

and thereby thwart the will of the people of the country in the great contest in 1892. It is intended to intrench in power the most dangerous set of men that ever influenced and dominated public affairs. Its enactment will be the most serious blow ever given to popular government and free institutions in this country,—

"Whosoever hath the gift of tongue let him use it;
Whosoever can wield the pen of the ready writer let him dip it in the inkhorn;
Whosoever hath a sword let him girdle it on, for the crisis demands our highest exertions, physical and moral."

[Great applause].

After the enthusiasm that greeted the speech of Congressman Bynum had exhausted itself, the Grand Sachem introduced for the second "Long Talk" Hon. Charles F. Crisp, of Georgia. The welcome accorded to Congressman Crisp was as enthusiastic as that given the previous speaker. He spoke as follows:

Address of Hon. Charles F. Crisp.

My Countrymen:—I am privately advised by my friend, Gen. Spinola—you are acquainted with him, I suppose—that somewhere hereabouts is a spring, which like time and tide waits for no

man, which bubbles about one o'clock, and into which, if you would have the full benefit of the springs, you must enter at the time of the moving of the waters. And then he told me privately, too, that there are about a dozen representatives of the people from various States, who are expected to say a word or two to you on this occasion, and putting this and that together I concluded from what he said that although I was put down for a long talk the most satisfactory thing I could do would be to give you a short talk, and therefore I shall do so.

My friend from Indiana has discussed almost exhaustively that measure which has attracted so much attention in the country, which has so agitated the House of Representatives, and the passage of which on the day before yesterday has so seriously endangered the liberties of the people. He has told you of its provisions. I might say to you something of the practices, the parliamentary practices in the House which have led up to and enabled the dominant party to secure the passage of that law. When this Congress assembled there were eight majority of Republicans in the House. How that majority was obtained you know as well as I do. You know the vast campaign fund contributed by those gentle-

men who are the special beneficiaries of existing laws, and by those gentlemen who desired the maintenance and continuance of a system which enabled them to obtain an undue advantage of the masses of the people. You know how by the use of that great fund this majority was acquired in the House of Representatives. That majority, my friends, was not what is called a working majority. Under the history and practices of this Government for a hundred years, the minority when so large as it was in the Fifty-first Congress had it in their power by the use of constitutional means to demand discussion—calm, reasonable discussion—to demand the right of amendments, and they also had the right under the constitution to see that a constitutional majority voted for before a bill was passed by the House of Representatives. You know the history of the struggle after the House met. You know how precedents were overridden. You know how the views expressed by leading Republicans of the past were disregarded, and under that rule and under that system the majority of the present House were enabled to do practically what they pleased. Still, my friends, they were without a working majority. There were seventeen contests, seventeen contested election cases brought

to this House. Every one of the sitting members was a Democrat. Every one of those who were seeking seats in the House was a Republican. For every Democrat that they could turn out and seat a Republican in his place they added two to their majority. The Committee on Elections have ruthlessly turned out of the House of Representatives gentlemen who were there as the lawfully accredited representatives of their constituencies. They have recommended, and the House has adopted their report, the unseating of a gentleman who was sent to the House by thirteen thousand majority. And instead of having eight, as they had when the Congress met, they now have twenty majority in the House of Representatives. When that twenty was obtained, then, my friends, you see what they have done, so far as the House is concerned, to perpetuate themselves in power. By a majority of those votes this iniquitous election bill was passed on the day before yesterday. They have made, by their changes in the returns from the officials of the States, a change of twelve majority in the House of Representatives. So that we can say, and truthfully say, that this law, which is intended to bind hand and foot the people of this country, has been passed by them with the aid and assistance of

men who were elected to the House of Representatives by a Republican majority in the House and not by the people they pretend to represent. Without the aid of those votes that law could not have passed.

And now what is to happen? Now, what of the liberties of the people? If this law should be, or this act should become a law, it is the taking away from the people the right to manage and control their own affairs. If this Government stands for any one thing more than another it is the right of local self-government, the right of home rule. If we believe in this country in any one thing as to offices and office-holders, it is that there should be on their part a responsibility to the people, who are the real rulers of the nation. This bill violates both of those ideas. There are nine Circuit Courts in the United States. There are two Democratic judges. Practically only one Democratic judge could act under this bill. The Chief Supervisor of election designates the judge who shall act, and that judge appoints a returning board for a sovereign State. The Circuit embraces several States, and the judge of the court appoints a board of three men, who are to certify who were elected by the people of the State of New York. There is no responsibility upon any of these

officers so that the people can reach them. If your election officers are appointed by your State officers or elected by you their acts can be reviewed at the polls, but no matter how fraudulent may be the practices of the returning board or of the Federal Court there is no way under our Constitution and under this bill by which they can be reached. If the Court should do wrong the only method of reaching the Court is by impeachment. The only way to impeach a judge is upon articles moved by the House of Representatives, and the House of Representatives which might be expected to move those articles, if it were necessary, hold their seats by virtue of certificates given to them by a returning board which is absolutely at the control of the judge. He appoints the board and removes them at his pleasure. How much responsibility is there upon his part? The returning board is only responsible to him. Now, we all know in this country what a returning board is. It has not been so long since you and I were defrauded out of the President we had elected by the action of returning boards. You recollect in 1876 the action of the returning board in Louisiana, in Florida, and in South Carolina. Do you recollect that visiting statesmen went down into that country, and with

their aid and influence these returning boards certified to lies, and on their certificates the President elected by the people was defrauded out of his seat. Those returning boards were rewarded. These visiting statesmen and their party friends had control of the patronage of the Government, and if you will take the trouble to go back to the books and records of those days and look into them, you will find that every one of these men, these returning boards and their officers and subordinates, every one of them, was given a lucrative position under the Federal Government. With the power of the purse and with the power of the patronage of the Government, I ask you what chance have the people against a party of this past history of the Republican party. Our only safety, my friends, is holding all public officials to strict accountability to the people. I do not care how high and exalted may be the character of the individual you elect to any office, I say to you that history has demonstrated that the only perfectly safe and satisfactory security against corruption and maladministration is to hold your public servants to a strict accountability to you for the manner in which they discharge the duties of their office. Under this bill you cannot do this. The Republican party are only

temporarily in power in the House if we can have an honest election in future, but they are desperate people. The faction that now leads and controls them is the most radical of the radical. That representative who seems most to dominate and control them has told you that the one thing needful to the success, the continued success of the Republican party, is the passage of a law which enables them to do their own registering, their own counting, and their own certifying. That means that that registration and counting, and certifying will maintain in all the departments of the Government, in despite of the wishes of the people, representatives of the party who are now in possession of the departments of the Government. Do you want any better demonstration of that than the House of Representatives? They ought to be fair representatives of their party. They ought to be as good as returning boards that you will get under the law, and I say to you—and I say it with some knowledge of the question, because I have investigated every one of the cases that they have contested—I say to you that they have turned out of the House of Representatives members who were legally elected, and seated men who had no more shadow of a right to a seat than you have now to the seat that I represent in

Congress. If they are thus dishonest, if they are thus blind, accepting them as a fair and correct type of the average Republican, what can you expect of the returning board that may be appointed under this law? I am not an alarmist. We have seen many troubles in this country. The good sense and patriotism, the honesty and the integrity of the people have blocked them all. Now we are menaced with another and a greater peril. The dominant party by assailing the section where I live, the section that I love, the section which you love, the section so magnificently defended by the great Governor of New York two days ago in Indiana, by assailing that section have sought to excite prejudices up here that we hope and believe that twenty-five years since the war has buried and hidden out of sight. By exciting those prejudices they seek to justify the passage of this law, saying to you doubtless that it is necessary for peace in the South, but having in mind, as suggested by my friend from Indiana, the fact that it may be used very advantageously in New York by them.

All people know who deal in trade with the South that these reflections upon her system, upon her peace and order are false and untrue. The millions of capital that have gone down there

since the war, the hundreds of thousands of our Northern fellow-citizens who live there now, the tax returns of the cities and counties and States, the amount of money accumulated and property accumulated by freedmen, the general advance and prosperity of all that section unite in denouncing as false a statement that down there there is oppression or injustice to anybody. If the people of this country cannot be led off on that false issue those now in power feel that their tenure is short. They feel that the legislation of this session, even as far as they have gone, is oppressive to the masses of the people. That which is to come, that which they are pledged to, or were pledged to in the last campaign, but which they are holding back until the next election, is still more oppressive. They realize that if the people of this country are able to go to the polls and freely cast their ballots, and have them honestly counted, and have the majorities so set up honestly asserted in the departments of the Government, they know and feel that their lease of power is gone. Knowing that, feeling that, they are willing to do anything to retain power. They do this under the plea of peace. They want peace. Under that precious plea, my friends, in all ages outrages have been committed upon

the people. When the Government of Poland was overturned and a usurper was on the throne, it was announced "Peace reigned in Warsaw." When the French republic was succeeded by the empire and Napoleon the Third ascended the throne, it was given out to the world "The Empire is peace." When these people, this Republican party, shall have stifled the voice of the people at the polls, when they shall have a set of returning boards and supervision by which you are intimidated from the honest expression of your vote, where you do not have the benefit of its honest return, then they, too, will say to the people of the world that in the great Republic there is peace. I say for myself, and I shall conclude with this, and in saying it I know I but reflect your sentiment, that I should choose rather some of the strife and turmoil of liberty to this peace and quiet of a military despotism.

Several popular airs were rendered by the band, and the Glee Club sang: "The Flag of our Union Forever." Secretary John B. McGoldrick, read the replies to the invitations of the Society from distinguished Democrats, and absent Brothers. (The letters will be found printed in full in the back part of this book.)

The "Star Spangled Banner," was then sung by Mr. Phillip F. Sullivan, assisted by the Tammany Glee Club. The Grand Sachem then introduced Governor B. T. Biggs. of Delaware, as the first of the "Short Talkers." who had promised to obey the five minute rule.

Governor Biggs was greeted with a round of applause when he arose to speak. After saying that Tammany Hall was rooted and grounded in the hearts of the American people, he referred to the Federal Election bill as the most important political measure of the day.

"The time is coming," he said, "when beyond a doubt that law will return to that bourne from which no traveller returns, unwept, unhonored, and unsung. Let the negroes in the South have their rights. No one denies them their rights. They have as many to-day as the white man in the Southern States, but if I were a Southern man I would never allow the negro, as long as life lasted, to have his own rights and my own too. Coming here to-day I saw that the President had signed the bill admitting Idaho as a State. I know that territory has not now a population of fifty thousand."

Congressman WILLIAM M. SPRINGER, of Illinois, spoke as follows:

FELLOW CITIZENS OF THE TAMMANY SOCIETY:—I am profoundly grateful to you for the cordial greeting you have extended to me on this occasion. I would that time permitted that I should address you on this occasion as I feel in my heart that I would like to; but as I am getting so accustomed under the present rules of the House of Representatives to the five minute rule, I cannot possibly go beyond it. That is all a Democrat is allowed to speak now in behalf of the people and representation which he has—has to fight for that. I, however, in the brief time allowed me desire to call your attention to the fact that the continued ascendancy of the Republican party in this country is a menace to popular government and to home rule. In 1876 the leaders of that party stole the presidency of the United States, and legalized their theft by a partisan Electoral Commission. In 1880 they corrupted the voters of Indiana and New York with money, wrung from the office-holders of the country. In 1888 they purchased the election of Benjamin Harrison with money wrung from the manufacturers of the country. In the present House of Representatives they have violated every principle of home rule by unseat-

ing Democrats who were elected by thirteen thousand majority. They have gone further, and have passed through the House of Representatives two bills, one of which, the McKinley bill, is intended to use and usurp the taxing power of the Government for the purpose of compelling the people to contribute of their hard earnings to the support of the monopolists and capitalists of the country, thus making the poor poorer, and the rich richer. A bill which is intended among other things to destroy the commerce of the whole city of New York, and to close the ports of our country from the commerce of the world.

They have gone further than that, distrusting—as they well may do—the people of this country at the next election, and have passed an electoral law through the House of Representatives, which has for its avowed object the wresting of elections from the people and conferring them upon a despotism organized in Washington and intended to destroy the power of the people to govern themselves in this country. But I warn the leaders of this party that they may carry this business too far. I warn them that the people of this country are the descendants of Revolutionary sires who proclaimed the right of the people to govern themselves even against the foreign despot, George the

Third. Let them profit by the examples of the past. If they carry on and carry out their nefarious purposes the time may come, and it may even now be dawning upon us, when the people of this country will assemble at their places of meeting and again proclaim the great principles of the Declaration of Independence that all men are created equal, and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights. Whenever it shall be demonstrated that the right of the people to turn this party out of power at the ballot box is ruthlessly taken from us, let them know now that that power will be wrested from them if we have to go to the beginning as our forefathers did. They must remember that whatever may betide in this country, in the language of that great man, once President of the United States, and who formerly represented in the House of Representatives the district which I now have the honor to represent, "that the people of this country are determined that a government by the people, for the people, shall not perish in this country."

I feel assured, my fellow citizen, that popular government and home rule will not perish among us, for when our rights are so far persecuted and wrested from us that we cannot successfully use

and have the right to use our ballots, we will seek other means of asserting them, and that assertion will not be in vain. When that declaration, when that new declaration is made, if it ever shall be made in this country, you will find a million, yes, ten million patriots, in this country who have a right to vote, and who will never sacrifice it, renewing again their allegiance to popular government and home rule, and who will in every voting place in the land pledge anew in the sight of Divine Providence, and appealing to Him for their guidance, and pledge their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to retain this right.

Congressman Caruth, of Kentucky, spoke of the Federal Election bill, and declared that the Republican party, with all its infamous measures, could not possibly keep a Democratic majority out of the next House of Representatives.

Mr. Caruth's speech included a paraphrase of the epitaph on his five wives, written by a man who moved their remains from one graveyard to another, and unfortunately mixed them up:

> Stranger, pause and drop a tear,
> Susan Sparks is buried here,
> Mingled in some mysterious manner
> With Sarah, Mary, Jane, and Hanner.

Mr. Caruth suggested as an epitaph for those whom the roused people will bury and mix up:

> Stranger, pause, but drop no tear,
> For Tommy Reed lies buried here;
> Mingled in some mysterious way
> With parts of Wanamaker, Platt, and Quay.

Congressman Theodore Wilkinson, of Louisiana, spoke of the Statute of Liberty as the symbol of American Independence.

"Woe to him," he vehemently declared, "be he presiding officer of the House of Representatives or any other tyrant, if he intercepts its rays or dims its splendor."

Congressman Benton McMillan, of Tennessee, spoke in the same strain as previous speakers, in referring to the Federal Election bill:

"The assassins of liberty," he said, "have stepped into the very citadel of American institutions, but there are yet brave hearts and strong hands to defy their despotism. The men who contributed the money with which to purchase the last election have been rewarded with high places. Wanamaker, who secured a contribution of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars to the Republican cause, received in payment a place in the Cabinet.

During the last National canvass, to my certain knowledge, he was teaching a Sunday School in Philadelphia, buying votes in Indiana, and exhibiting 'Christ before Pilate' throughout the country.

"The Democratic party," Mr. McMillan, continued, "sprang from the Revolution, and wherever liberty's battle is to be fought, wherever the cause of justice is to be championed, there will Democratic soldiers be found, fighting valiantly."

Congressman John M. Allen, of Mississippi, was the next speaker, he said:

"I am glad to be with Tammany to-day. I come here smarting under the outrages perpetrated upon me and my party at Washington. I am glad to be with you here to rekindle the fires of American liberty. If the principles of the Republican party are to prevail, we are in sore need of a new declaration of independence.

"The pretext for the outrages about to be committed by the Republican party is the alleged outrages in the South. I will not deny that there have been cases in the Southern States, as in all States of the Union, for that matter, where elections have not gone strictly to the line, but I do say that the very worst ballot-box stuffer who

ever operated in the South would pale his ineffectual fires before the rascality and scoundrelism I have myself seen in the unseating of members of the House of Representatives.

"If the sentiment of your song, 'let tyrants tremble,' prevails, the Republican party is doomed to destruction. I can assert with all positiveness of conviction that what that party is now attempting to do is more destructive to liberty than was the secession of the Southern States."

Congressman Kerr, of Pennsylvania, spoke of the thirteen original colonies, the thirteen Sachems of Tammany Hall and the thirteen Congressmen that were the guests of Tammany. The visiting Congressmen, he said, were all the representatives of Democratic States except Mr. Springer, of Illinois, and himself. But Illinois, he declared, was wavering in the balance, and the Pennsylvania forces of Democracy had been martialed to do battle to Quayism and Reedism, with good chances for success.

Congressman Emloe, of Tennessee, made another reference to a possible new declaration of independence. If the time came when another such declaration was needed, he felt sure that Tammany would be found at the front.

Congressman Yoder, of Ohio, began his speech by declaring that Ohio would take a front seat in the next Democratic National Convention. Tammany Hall, he said, had given New York the best local government of any city in the world. He wanted to impress upon the minds of the people of the country the necessity of assembling in mass meetings to protest against the Federal Election bill.

"The Senate is waiting to hear from you," he declared. "Let that body receive a significant expression of opinion from every county seat in the country regarding this odious measure."

Congressman Mansur, of Missouri, was the last speaker. "In the West," he said, "the question of tariff reform was a winning issue, and the question of Federal influence levelled at a free people would win in the East and South. The Federal Election bill was the greatest insult ever cast into the teeth of a free people. It was the last effort of a political party that was dying in the ditch."

It was long after two o'clock when the last "Short Talk" was over. The large audience rose and gave three cheers for the visiting Congressmen. After the Glee Club, Sachems, Braves

and audience had joined the grand chorus of the "Red, White and Blue," the march was taken up, and the guests led in triumph to the cave, where large tables were spread with refreshments, and the feast of reason and flow of soul was kept up until late in the evening, when the visitors were taken in charge of by the committee, and the one hundred and fourteenth celebration of Independence Day by the Tammany Society was over.

REPLIES TO INVITATIONS.

Hon. Abram B. Tappen, Grand Sachem;

Marion, Massachusetts, June 30, 1890.

Dear Sir:—My absence from the City of New York, and plans which I have already made, prevent my acceptance of the courteous invitation which I have received, to attend the Celebration by the Tammany Society, of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence.

The Celebration contemplated by your ancient and time-honored organization, will, it seems to me, fall short in the impressions done to the occasion, if it does not persistently present and emphasize the idea that the Declaration of Independence was the protest of honest and sturdy men against the wrongs and oppressions of misgovernment. The reasons and justification for their revolt are exhibited in their recital of a long list of grievous instances of mal-administration. They complained that their interests had been so neglected, and their rights as lawful subjects so violated under British rule, that they were absolved from further fealty.

Our Fathers in establishing a new government upon the will of the People and consecrated to their care and just protection, could not prescribe limitations which would deny to political parties its conduct and administration. The opportunities and the temptations thus necessarily presented to partisanship, have brought us to a time when *party control is far too arrogant and bitter*, and when, in public place, the true interests of the country are too lightly considered.

In this predicament, those who love their country may well remember with comfort and satisfaction on Independence Day, that the disposition of the American people to revolt against mal-administration still remains to them, and is the badge of their freedom and independence, as well as their security for continued prosperity and happiness.

They will not revolt against their plan of government —for its protection and preservation supply every inspiration of true Americanism. But because they are free and independent American citizens, they will, as long as their love and veneration for their government shall last, revolt against the domination of any political party, which entrusted with power, sordidly seeks only its continuance, and which faithlessly violating its plain and simple duty to the people, insults them with professions of disinterested solicitude, while it eats out their substance.

And yet, with all this, we should not in blind security deny the existence of danger. The masses of our countrymen are brave and therefore generous; they are strong and therefore confident, and they are honest and therefore unsuspecting. Our peril lies in the ease with which they may be deluded and cajoled by those who would traffic with their interests.

No occasion is more opportune than the Celebration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of

American Independence, to warn the American people of the present necessity on their part of a vigilant watchfulness of their rights and a jealous exaction of honest and unselfish performance of public duty.

Yours very truly,

GROVER CLEVELAND.

STATE OF NEW YORK,
Executive Chamber,
ALBANY, July 3, 1890.

DEAR SIR:— Upon my return from the West, where I have been to pay my respects to the memory of that true Democrat whom we all honor, Thomas A. Hendricks, I find your invitation to attend the celebration of the Tammany Society in commemoration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence, and I am extremely sorry that previous to my departure I had made another engagement for the Fourth of July.

The Tammany Society is entitled to and will receive the praise of all true Americans in its untiring efforts, made manifest on every Fourth of July, to keep alive the spirit and memory of that day which marked the enunciation of our Declaration of Independence. That day and the day which saw the establishment of the American Constitution are the most noteworthy of our history. The one marked the abstract declaration of American principles: the other, the practical application of those principles in a written form of government. The two productions which those days brought forth ought to be the most revered documents in history.

This Anniversary day will be dear to friends of human liberty in every land, but the observation of it

ought never to be ignored by genuine Americans. Its celebration this year ought to be more than usually serious. It ought to represent a reconsecration of the people to the principles upon which their government was founded.

The beginning of the second century of our Federal existence has witnessed a strange departure from those principles. The party in control of the Government is exhibiting in the executive and legislative branches a dangerous tendency toward usurpation and centralization of power, culminating thus far in the passage by the House of Representatives of an election bill which a large part of the people have with justice and propriety emphatically denounced as subversive of popular ights and revolutionary in purpose and effect.

Should such legislation continue unrebuked our constitution will become blank paper, and our country will need a new declaration of independence.

I am sure that in the celebration which the Tanmany Society has arranged for this anniversary the effort will not be spared to arouse the people to a sense of the dangers which threaten in this wide departure from the simple form of government planned by our forefathers, and to rebuke the selfish and tyrannical partisanship which, to satisfy its own greed, is willing not only to sacrifice the peace and prosperity of the country, but to pervert the very charter of our liberties.

Tammany Hall will but echo the best sentiment of the country when it appeals to the patriotic instincts of men of all parties to oppose these tendencies toward centralization and governmental favoritism. It is an organization with an illustrious history. Its influence is powerful and far reaching. It is an important factor in our American civilization. It stretches a protecting arm over the poor and ignorant who come to our land from distant shores, and instructs them in the duties of

American citizenship. It has been a steadfast friend of manhood suffrage and has vigorously opposed every attempt, no matter how carefully concealed or how ingeniously devised, to disfranchise a single honest voter, humble and unlettered though he may be. It has bravely stood for individual liberty, local self-government, the rights of the States, equal privileges for all, and an economical administration of public affairs. With such traditions it should be the first to strike a warning note and lend its energies again to secure strict adherence to the fundamental principles of our Constitution. Its voice will be heard and heeded. Its example will be an inspiration to thousands of men all over the country who rejoice to call themselves Democratic because Democracy represents these true American ideas. In employing this glorious anniversary to urge resistance and rebuke to any encroachment upon or surrender of these ideas and to revive devotion to Jeffersonian principles the Tammany Society will be rendering a beneficent and patriotic service, worthy of grateful remembrance in the minds of the people.

I remain,

Your fellow citizen,

DAVID B. HILL,

Governor of New York.

STATE OF ALABAMA,

Executive Department,

Office of the Governor,

MONTGOMERY, June 16, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I have your valued favor of June 9th, inviting me, on behalf of the Tammany Society, to be present at its Celebration, on the Fourth of July next,

of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence. I am deeply sensible of your kindness, and I much regret that my official engagements render it impossible for me to be present with your Order at that time. Begging you to accept my thanks for your courtesy, I am,

Very respectfully yours,
THOMAS SEAY,
Governor of Alabama.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
Executive Department,
TRENTON, June 16, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I am in receipt of the Invitation of the Committee of the Tammany Society, to be present at Tammany Hall, on July 4th, at ten o'oclock.

It would give me great pleasure to be present on that occasion, but I have an engagement which prevents my being with the Society, on that date.

Yours truly,
LEON ABBETT,
Governor of New Jersey.

STATE OF KENTUCKY,
Executive Department,
FRANKFORT, June 16, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I regret that official engagements will prevent me from participating in the Celebration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of Ameri-

can Independence, under the auspices of the Tammany Society.

An Order which has contributed so largely to perpetuate the principles of individual liberty and good government, should inspire a grateful appreciation in the hearts of all Americans.

Respectfully,

A. B. BUCKNER,

Governor of Kentucky.

STATE OF MONTANA,

Executive Office,

HELENA, June 21, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I am in receipt of your invitation to be present on the Fourth of July, and participate in the Celebration of that day under the auspices of the Tammany Society. I thank you for the invitation, and regret that I cannot be present to listen to the story of our independence, wonderful progress, and present greatness, as it will be told by you and others.

I am, very truly yours,

J. K. TOOLE,

Governor of Montana.

STATE OF LOUISIANA,

Executive Department,

BATON ROUGE, June 17, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your kind invitation to attend the Celebration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American

Independence, which will take place on the Fourth day of July next, by the Tammany Society or Columbian Order, for which please accept my cordial thanks.

I regret that my official duties prevent me from absenting myself especially at this time when the Legislature is in session, my presence in this State being of indispensible necessity.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS,

Governor of Louisiana.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,

Executive Department,

CHARLESTON, June 23, 1890.

DEAR SIR :—I appreciate your invitation to attend the Tammany Society Celebration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence. I regret to say that my engagements are such as to make it impossible for me to attend.

With my best wishes for the success of your Celebration, I am, truly, &c.,

A. B. FLEMING,

Governor of West Virginia.

STATE OF OREGON,

Executive Department,

SALEM, June 19, 1890.

DEAR SIR :—I acknowledge receipt of your invitation requesting me to participate with Tammany Society in its Celebration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth

Anniversary of American Independence. Official duties will preclude its acceptance. Allow me, however, to express the hope that Tammany will, upon this Anniversary, as of yore, declare its unalterable fidelity to those great principles which necessarily underlie all just governments—the equality of privilege, and the equality of taxation.

Very respectfully,

SYLVESTER PENNOYER,

Governor of Oregon.

United States Senate,

Washington, D. C., June 14, 1890.

Dear Sir:—I appreciate the kindness and honor of your very cordial invitation to attend the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence, to be celebrated by the Tammany Society, on the Fourth of July, next.

I regret, exceedingly, that official duties here will deprive me of the pleasure and honor of attending.

I trust that the occasion may be all that your Society may desire. I am, very truly,

Your obedient servant,

F. M. COCKRELL,

U. S. Senator from Missouri.

United States Senate,

Washington, D. C., June 15, 1890.

Dear Sir:—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation for the Fourth of July Celebration by your Society, and ask to express my regrets that I cannot

accept it. My arrangements are made to leave your port on the third proximo, for Bermuda. I would gladly join you if I could. There is no organization in this land, save the Democratic party, that has done as much to maintain and perpetuate free Government, and none that has the same right to celebrate the recurring Anniversary of the Republic as has Tammany. I only wish that I could be with you on the Fourth.

Very truly,

JO. E. S. BLACKBURN,

U. S. Senator from Kentucky.

UNITED STATES SENATE,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 16, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I am in receipt of your courteous invitation of the 9th instant, to attend the Celebration of the Tammany Society of the Fourth of July, next.

I sincerely regret that owing to engagements at home, in Indiana, I am compelled to decline accepting it.

With many thanks for the courtesy, I remain,

Very respectfully yours,

D. TURPIE,

U. S. Senator from Indiana.

UNITED STATES SENATE,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 23, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—Once more I am in receipt of your invitation to attend Tammany Hall's Annual Fourth of July Celebration. I assure you that I sincerely regret my inability to accept it.

I have so much on my hands here, public and private, that I find it impracticable to absent myself for a moment.

With best wishes for a successful occasion, and the continued prosperity and usefulness of your ancient Society, I am,

Very truly yours,

Z. B. VANCE,

U. S. Senator from North Carolina.

United States Senate,

Washington, D. C., June 16, 1890.

Dear Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of an invitation on the part of the Tammany Society or Columbian Order, to be present and address the Society, on the Fourth of July next.

I fear that my public duties here may prevent my acceptance, but I beg to thank you cordially for the invitation, and remain,

Yours faithfully,

R. L. GIBSON,

U. S. Senator from Louisiana.

United States Senate,

Washington, D. C., June 14, 1890.

Dear Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of an invitation to be present and to address the Tammany Society, at the Celebration of its One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence on the Fourth of July, proximo.

In reply I beg to state that I have an engagement to deliver an address in New Jersey, on that day which will prevent my complying with the kind request of your Committee. I am, with great respect,

Your obedient servant,

J. R. McPHERSON,

U. S. Senator from New Jersey.

UNITED STATES SENATE,

WASHINGTON, June 30, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I have received your invitation to attend the celebration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence, to be held by your Society, and have deferred my answer hoping to be able to participate with you in the exercises of the day, but find that it is impossible for me to do so and with great regret feel obliged to decline.

There has been no time in the history of our country when a recurrence to the principles upon which the foundations of our Government were laid, has been more appropriate and important than the present.

The proposition to allow Federal Supervising Boards under the control of a National Administration to substitute their returns for the will of the people, should arouse the country from one end to the other.

It is for the liberty-loving people of the North to call public attention to the pending legislation which attempts these changes in our Government, and there is no opportunity more appropriate than such an Anniversary as you are to celebrate for doing this. Your patriotic Order has done much in the past to sustain and vindicate the principles of the early founders of our Government, and I feel confident that on this

occasion the Tammany Society will not fail to improve the opportunity of warning the country of the impending dangers which threaten the destruction of our constitutional form of government.

Hoping that your celebration will be a success, and thanking you for your courtesy, I remain,

Yours very truly,

S. PASCO,

United States Senator from Florida.

United States Senate,

Washington, D. C., June 15, 1890.

Dear Sir:—I have just received an invitation to the Tammany Celebration of the Fourth of July, 1890, and regret that I shall be unable to be present.

Very truly,

J. G. CARLISLE,

U. S. Senator from Kentucky.

United States Senate,

Washington, D. C., June 18, 1890.

Dear Sir:—I acknowledge with much pleasure your courteous invitation to the Tammany Celebration on the Fourth of July, proximo.

I sincerely regret to say that the pressure of duties at this late period of the session, and the infirmity of health, will prevent my acceptance of the same.

I am, very respectfully,

Your friend and obedient servant,

H. B. PAYNE,

U. S. Senator from Ohio.

UNITED STATES SENATE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., July 1, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I postponed answering the kind invitation of the Tammany Society to be present at the celebration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence at Tammany Hall, on the 4th instant, hoping that I might be able to accept.

But I get out of a sick bed to express my sincere regrets that it will be impossible for me to do.

Respectfully,
ISHAM G. HARRIS,
U. S. Senator for Tennessee.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 25, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of an invitation from the Tammany Society to attend its forthcoming Celebration of the Fourth of July. It will not be in my power to attend, which I much regret; and I desire to express my appreciation of the honor of the invitation, with best wishes for the success and welfare of the Society.

Very truly yours,
C. R. BRECKINRIDGE,
Member of Congress from Arkansas.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 24, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—Your obliging invitation to join in the Celebration of Tammany Society of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of our Country's Independence, is most respectfully ackowledged.

It is not likely that this pleasure can be realized.

You may well say this occasion will "be of exceptional significance."

Our fathers fought the "War of the Revolution" for Taxation AND Representation.

Under domination of the Republican Party to-day, we are living on the land our fathers made free, under a tyranny of congressional rule, which gives us Legislation *without* Representation.

Congress with limited and delegated powers assumes to be a Parliament; the Republican Party by a made-up majority, a manufactured vote, seeks to protect it by driving out the lawfully and duly elected Democratic members and seating in their places men whose claims rests on voting with the Republican Party and assuring its majority.

But this is not the most infamous policy of this Republican manufactured and protected majority. It seeks now to destroy the Federal Constitution and overthrow our system of government.

"The Federal Election" bill, proposes to put the elections in all our states, New England and Middle states, in the hands of Republican boss machine-politicians. Paid agents, to return to Congress only those men who will carry out the behests of the Republican Party. Every election poll will be subjected to the will of these paid Federal agents. They can decide who they want elected and their certificate is evidence of the elections without regard to the votes of the people. This most monstrous tyranny is advocated by the Republican members of Congress.

Courts are made tools; clerks of courts, agents; marshals, police officers, and the supervisors, masters of every voter at every election poll in every state in the United States. State authority is defied. Can this be submitted to? Will it be? The people should at once

assemble and in public meeting denounce this tyranny. The Tory Party of England in its oppression of our Fathers were never guilty of such schemes to destroy Liberty.

This Lodge Bill of the Tory Party of the United States in 1890, would have brought a blush on the face of Lord North, if he was asked to adopt such a measure.

Very truly yours,

RICHARD VAUX,

Member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 23, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I thank you for an invitation to attend the Celebration to be held on the Fourth of July next, by the Tammany Society or Columbian Order, and I regret exceedingly that my duties in Congress will prevent me from being present.

With many pleasant recollections of hospitalities extended to me by the Tammany Society two years ago, and with many wishes for the success of your great Columbian Order, I am,

Respectfully,

JAMES B. McCREARY,

Member of Congress from Kentucky.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 16, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—The invitation of your honorable Committee to take part in the Celebration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Inde-

pendence, to be held by the Tammany Society, was received. While I thank you heartily for your kindness, I am sorry to say that I am not at liberty to promise to be present, as pressure of business concerning obligations to my constituents and private business which have greatly accumulated, will very likely prevent my attendance. Nevertheless I will be with you on that day with all my heart and will glory in your celebration, and where is the American citizen whose heart would not rejoice when he sees the proudest day in our history celebrated in a befitting manner, which your Society understands so well to do;—how could it be otherwise as the Tammany Society belongs to that grand old party which always has been the pride of the country; the party which always did honor to its name, never had any occasion to change the same, and under the rule of which the country has at all times been happy and prosperous, and its independency assured. Being a German by birth, allow me to say a few words on behalf of my countrymen, who have on all occasions shown their love for and devotion to this home of the brave and the land of the free. I will only point to the fact that at the very beginning, when the people of this country struck the first blow for their liberty and Independence, the Continental army counted among its commanders a few German Generals, who were highly honored by George Washington, the father of this noble land, and whose records fill pages in our history to which every German-American can point with pride and satisfaction. It was also the Germans who, to a great extent, helped to till our soil, and wherever you may go in this broad land one will see the marks and proofs of German enterprise and industry, be it on farm, in general business life, architecture, or even science. And during the civil war, they have shown their patriotism, helping to fill the ranks of our army and

fighting bravely for that noble banner, the Stars and Stripes, to which they had sworn allegiance.

In justice to the Democratic party may it be said, that she always recognized the value of the German-American citizens, and that it is the only party that upholds personal liberty; that is free from prejudice against foreign-born American citizens, and free from Prohibition and religious fanaticism; allowing one and all to enjoy liberty in the broadest sense of its meaning, so long as there is no violation of the laws of this country.

Recognizing these facts, I hope and pray that the day may not be far distant, when all foreign-born citizens will stand firm by that grand old Democratic party, which alone is able to save American Independence—for which our forefathers have fought so bravely—from becoming a farce. I am, dear sir,

Yours very truly,

CHAS. BARWIG,

Member of Congress from Wisconsin.

House of Representatives,

Washington, D. C., July 2, 1890.

Dear Sir:—I am in receipt of the invitation to attend your annual Fourth of July celebration, and sincerely regret that sickness in my family will prevent me from being with you on that memorable day.

The Fourth of July is the day upon which we celebrate the Declaration of Independence of the first free Government upon the face of the earth. But after one hundred and fourteen anniversaries of that event, secure in the inheritance from our forefathers of a free and independent Government of the people and by the

people, we now witness the spectacle of an attempt at party domination by the overthrow of rights vested in the people of the several States. The day you celebrate will be a fitting occasion to sound an alarm to the people and call their attention to the rapid strides in the direction of centralization which their Government is taking under the present administration of the Republican party. While the States are using strenuous efforts to procure for their citizens an honest ballot, the Government, under the responsibility of the Republican party, in order to better facilitate the perpetuation of that party in power, is made to interpose a measure fraught with evil, a measure that menaces our personal liberties, a measure that will annul State laws and strike at the very foundation of a free Government as guaranteed in our Constitution.

While in the State of New York we have passed a law to prevent bribery at the ballot, this bill steps in and overrides that law. It gives the Republican party, through its Supervisors and Marshals, the right to employ at the polls any number of Deputy Marshals they shall deem necessary. What is to hinder, for instance, in the City of New York, the procuring of five hundred impecunious Marshals in the First District and sending them up to the Harlem District to be there employed during election, and visa versa all over the city. They are assured $5 a day for eight days' employment. The law allows them to be transferred from the district in which they are voters to any other district, and in this way a legalized bribery, in the interest of the Republican party, paid out of the Federal Treasury, will be the result.

This bill provides that fifty persons, claiming to be citizens of a County, or one hundred persons, claiming to be citizens of a Congressional District, may call for the exercise of this law by petitioning the Chief

Supervisor, and the judge of the Court must grant the request.

The beneficiaries under this bill will amount to more than six hundred in each Congressional District, at the least calculation, and therefore it will be called for in every district in the United States, thus furnishing a machine for the Republican party to make a thorough from house-to-house canvass, to count the votes and to give the result to the Returning Board established in each Judicial District; and the certificate of that Returning Board must be received in Washington by the Clerk of the House of Representatives in preference to that of the Governor or Secretary of State, under the penalty of $5,000 fine and two years' imprisonment.

Persons who have already been admitted to full American citizenship by complying with the regulations pertaining to naturalization, and whose rights thereto have already been acknowledged by the acceptance of votes cast at previous elections, are not to escape the scrutiny of party henchmen. This bill provides that in any town, having twenty thousand inhabitants, a list of naturalized persons shall be kept by the Chief Supervisor, the date of their naturalization, and name and residence of witnesses, with right to examine the original affidavit; and for the convenience of said Supervisor, no penalty is attached to his employing said witnesses as Deputy Marshals. Supervisors are also required to observe and scrutinize the manner in which naturalizations are being made, and to aid the Court in preventing fraudulent naturalizations; in other words, they are empowered by United States law to exercise a censorship at naturalization of foreigners, who desire to become American citizens, with no penalty attached for degrading their high office by practicing upon innocent and well-meaning persons such intimida-

tion as may deter them from an exercise of their just rights.

This is the most revolutionary measure that has been proposed so far in any Congress, and it is the duty of all good citizens to speak out against it, for it is an outrage upon the American people.

Let your Ancient Order raise its warwhoop against this interference with the rights of the American people.

Regretting that I cannot be with you,

I am, very truly yours,

ROSWELL P. FLOWER,

Member of Congress from New York.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 17, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—The invitation to attend and address the Tammany Society, at its meeting on the Fourth of July, proximo, is before me. But for an engagement already made I would most cheerfully comply, and avail myself of the personal pleasure it would afford me to meet and mingle with the members of the grand old organization, upon an occasion which that organization (as I understand its principles and doctrines), is pre-eminently entitled to commemorate, because its tenets are a truly correct exposition of the principles of the famous declaration promulgated one hundred and fourteen years ago.

But I cannot be with you. With best wishes,

Yours in the faith,

BARNES COMPTON,

Member of Congress from Maryland.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 16, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I have the honor of yours of the 9th inst., inviting me to participate in the Celebration of the "Tammany Society" on the Fourth of July, next.

I regret to be obliged to say that a previous engagement for that day, will deprive me of the pleasure of being present with you on that occasion.

My heart goes out to "Tammany," with an ever increasing fervency, inspired by each added celebration day of its honored existence. Long may it live: and upward, outward and onward may its sway extend, to scatter everywhere the blessings of liberty, of law, and of order, while the skies have a star, or old ocean a tide.

Yours faithfully,
CHAS. H. GIBSON,
Member of Congress from Maryland.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 14, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I regret that I cannot accept the invitation of your Society for the Fourth of July, next.

The celebration of that day is worthy of the Democracy everywhere, because all that it is commemorative of is essentially Democratic.

In response to your request for an expression of appropriate sentiment, let me add, that I hope that the Democratic party everywhere will be united, and so return to the control of the government it has always conducted in the best interests of the people.

Yours respectfully,
J. LOGAN CHIPMAN,
Member of Congress from Michigan.

STATE OF NEW YORK,
Lieutenant-Governor's Room,
ALBANY, July 2, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—Thanks and regrets rival each other, the first for your kindly remembrance, the second that I am deprived by a duty elsewhere of the honor and pleasure of joining you on this occasion.

True to the traditions of the Columbian Order, its sons meet in annual commemoration of the Birthday of our Republic.

We are rapidly counting the years in the second century of our National existence, and joyfully thank God that we are at peace with all the world.

That no armed foe within or without our borders threaten the tranquility of the Commonwealth.

Bright skies span our future, and were it not for the insiduous greed for power and wealth of an unprincipled political party, who would perpetuate themselves regardless of the rights of the people, we might safely measure the future by the past.

But our hopes are weakened by the course pursued by an unscrupulous majority who now control Congress.

These partisans devoid of all respect for the Constitutional rights of the minority in Congress, though they represent a majority of the people, under pretence of protecting the purity of the ballot would rob all but their own followers of the right of suffrage.

In our own State Legislature the Republicans shouted "ballot reform" until the very walls of the Senate and Assembly echoed the cry, but when they were met by a Democracy honestly as eager for ballot reform as the Republicans pretended, they shuffled and evaded the issue until an indignant public drove them to the support of a measure that promises an honest expression of the will of the people at the ballot box.

Now what do we see, a Republican Congress threatening such a partisan supervision of our elective system as to rob it of all equity, and for which there can be no excuse beyond the fact that the majority have the power.

These wrongs will result in solidifying the Democracy, in maintenance of the rights promised in the Constitution, of which there is no more faithful supporter than the Tammany Society.

I am, yours truly,

EDWARD F. JONES,

Lieut.-Governor of New York.

State of New York,

Office of the Secretary of State,

Albany, June 27, 1890.

Dear Sir:—I beg to acknowledge the honor of an invitation to be present at Tammany Hall, on the occasion of the Celebration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence, and to say that another engagement makes it impossible that I should have a share in the interesting event.

It is a matter of congratulation that the citizens of New York are annually given an opportunity for displaying their devotion to Country, and their appreciation of free government, by assembling in the Hall of the Tammany Society and participating in the performance of a programme of patriotic exercises, arranged by this old and honored Order.

It is the hope of every good citizen that these celebrations may serve to create in the people a zealous care for the protection and preservation of the rights declared by the founders of the Government and guar-

anteed by the letter of the Constitution made and promulgated by them.

Very respectfully yours,

FRANK RICE,

Secretary of State, State of New York.

STATE OF NEW YORK,

Attorney General's Office,

ALBANY, June 27, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—I am in receipt of your invitation to attend the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence, to be held by the Tammany Society, at Tammany Hall, July 4, 1890. I thank you sincerely for your thoughtfulness in remembering me upon this occasion, and I am sorry that I cannot possibly attend. But I wish you all kinds of success and enjoyment upon this and all other Anniversaries of this kind.

I am, very truly yours,

CHARLES F. TABOR,

Attorney General, State of New York.

STATE OF NEW YORK,

Treasurer's Office,

ALBANY, July 1, 1890.

DEAR SIR:—Please accept my thanks for your kind invitation to attend the Celebration of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence, to be held in Tammany Hall, July 4, 1890. I regret that

a previous engagement to speak on that day, will prevent my being with you and joining in the celebration.

We do well to honor the memory of the fifty-six lawyers, traders, farmers and mechanics, who so many years ago proclaimed this continent the property of a free people. It is fitting that the immortal document they signed, should be read on each recurring anniversary in all the towns throughout the land, and every bell re-echo those first notes, which so stirred the blood of patriots on that memorable 4th of July, 1776. As a result of the services and sacrifices of those early patriots, we have to-day an individual, unbroken Republic, free from ocean to ocean, with as many States as we can crowd stars into the flag.

Trusting that the celebration by your honored Society will be attended with success, I am,

Very truly yours,

ELLIOT DANFORTH,

Treasurer, State of New York.

Comptroller's Office,

Albany, N. Y., June 20, 1890.

Dear Sir:—I sincerely regret that I will be unable to attend the One Hundred and Fourteenth Celebration of Independence day, by the Tammany Society.

Thanking you for your kind invitation, I am,

Very sincerely,

EDWARD WEMPLE,

Comptroller, State of New York.

STATE OF NEW YORK,
Senate Chamber,
ALBANY, June 30, 1890.

DEAR SIR :—I regret that it will be impossible for me to be present with the Tammany Society at its Celebration of our Anniversary of National Independence, next Friday.

A partisian majority in Congress seems determined to maintain its grasp on power by the mailed hand, through the enactment of unnecessary and uncalled-for election laws, intended to arm the General Government with new and dangerous powers, and constituting a menace to the cherished privileges of the people of the States to choose their reprentatives in Congress, peaceably in their own way.

Particularly is this a grievance in our own State, where, after long discussion a just and equitable election law designed to maintain the purity of the ballot, and with carefully guarded provisions looking to that end has just been placed on the statute book; the conflict between which law and that proposed in Congress will lead to sad discussion and perhaps throw discredit on attempts to secure elections free from intimidation and bribery.

Every peaceable and constitutional endeavor should be put forth to prevent the perpetration of this great wrong. At this juncture such is the paramount duty of every Democrat.

Rejoicing with you because of the long preservation of our liberties, and gladly acknowledging the distinguished services of the Columbian Order in that behalf, I remain,

Yours very truly,
JOHN J. LINSON,
State Senator, New York.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE—COUNTY COURT HOUSE,
NEW YORK, June 27, 1890.

DEAR SIR :—To-morrow I leave town for Indianapolis, and do not expect to return in time to attend the Celebration of the Fourth of July, at Tammany Hall. I hope you will all have a good time as usual, and shall read the report of your proceedings with interest. This is an important year for the Democratic Party, and if wise counsels prevail we may look forward with confidence to a controlling power in the City, State and Nation.

Faithfully yours,
DANIEL E. SICKLES,
Sheriff, County of New York.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., June 30, 1890.

MY DEAR SIR :—I feel honored by your invitation to be present on the Anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, and take part in the exercises. It is a matter of sincere regret that an engagement to be present at a Celebration at another place, made before receiving your kind invitation will prevent me from meeting with the members of Tammany Society on the Fourth proximo.

You are to observe the Anniversary of the day when the soul of the American People was expressed in that immortal document—a day which was not only the birthday of a people, but on which the foundations of a National Government were laid. Like Celebrations will be held on each recurring Anniversary through all time, for a government founded on principles so just to all, must live forever.

Very sincerely,
DONALD McNAUGHTON.

131 St. James Place,

Brooklyn, N. Y., July 3, 1890.

Dear Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to participate in the exercises of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Anniversary of American Independence by the Tammany Society or Columbian Order, and to deliver an address at the meeting. I have deferred answer in hope that circumstances would permit me to be present, but find that it will be impossible.

The celebration of the Anniversary of American Independence by your Society, from year to year, has always been worthy of the dignity and grandeur of the event celebrated, and I regard my enforced absence therefrom in the light of a serious personal loss.

Very respectfully,

JOHN P. ADAMS,

City Commissioner of Brooklyn.

Oswego, N. Y., July 3, 1890.

Dear Sir:—I have had the distinguished honor of receiving from you the magnificently dictated, eloquent and patriotic invitation to attend the One Hundred and Fourteenth Celebration of the Natal Day of the grandest nation that has ever yet been reared by mankind, by the most loyal and patriotic Society of good and true men that was ever nurtured in the bosom of a free and independent Republic—Glorious Old Tammany!

It is with painful regret I state my inability to be present at your great Anniversary. The spirit of patriotism for our common country and fealty to your grand old (but ever new) Order burns within me and makes me yearn to be in your midst; but, alas! the

weary body begins to feel the weight of years and refuses to keep pace with the ever youthful spirit, consequently owing to the remote distance will be unable to be with you. I shall, however, be with you in the spirit, recounting with pride the glorious records of your illustrious members, past and present.

What political society of any nation, ancient or modern, can present a nobler lineage of patriots, orators and statesmen? Sons of Liberty who have ever fought against every aggression and centralized encroachment on the original purity, simplicity and God-given liberties of our priceless heritage.

Your Society, though venerable for its years, is only in its youth, like unto our glorious Republic, your mission is never ending, because "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," and your recurring festivals of independence are but the beacon lights of your noble history that shall perpetuate your principles to posterity and forever preserve the blessings of liberty to a noble, patriotic and generous people.

Returning you my grateful thanks for your courtesy, and wishing you the full enjoyment of a glorious celebration,

I remain, yours loyally,

JOHN GARDENIER.

From the Shreveport (La.) Times, July 1, 1890.

The *Times* acknowledges a cordial invitation to attend the One Hundred and Fourteenth Celebration of the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1890, by the Tammany Society of New York. While appreciating the kind remembrance, other duties will prevent its acceptance.

This Columbian Order embraces the patriotic and liberty-loving sons of America. Organized at the adoption of the Federal Constitution, it has participated in all the notable events of the Union for more than a hundred years. It has been an earnest advocate of the cause of Democracy, and year by year the members renew their fealty to American principles with patriotic sentiments and the pledge of their love and devotion to a pure Jeffersonian Democratic form of Government.

Letters and telegrams were also received from Mayor Alfred C. Chapin, of Brooklyn; Congressman R. P. C. Wilson, of Missouri; Congressman James W. Covert, of New York; Congressman T. R. Stockdale, of Mississippi; Congressman J. E. Washington, of Tennessee; Congressman Felix Campbell, of New York; State Senator Charles Stadtler, Congressman W. F. Wilcox, Governor Jackson, of Maryland; Governor Boies, of Iowa; Governor Daniel G. Fowler, of North Carolina; Congressman John Quinn, of New York; Congressman John F. Andrew, Congressman James D. Richardson, of Tennessee; Congressman William G. Stahlnecker, of New York; State Senator Edward Hawkins, Hon. Alexander Throup, of New Haven; Congressman McAdoo, of New Jersey, and Hon. D. G. Griffin, of Watertown, N. Y.